



Patient & Caregiver Newsletter - July 2021

Telemedicine

Physicians in the Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program are required to establish a bona fide physician-patient relationship to recommend medical marijuana. Ohio law ([Ohio Revised Code 4731.30](#)) and Medical Board rule ([Ohio Administrative Code 4731-32-03](#)) require a physician to conduct an in-person physical examination of the patient prior to the first recommendation. The physician may issue a recommendation for 90 days and up to three renewals for 90 days each. Once the three renewals have been made, the physician is required again to perform a physical examination before they can issue another recommendation.

To prioritize patient safety, the Medical Board suspended enforcement of these regulations during the COVID-19 pandemic, which allowed physicians with a CTR to use telemedicine in place of in-person visits. Now that the state of emergency has been lifted, the Medical Board will resume enforcement on September 17, 2021. Once again, this will require initial visits and annual renewals to be completed in-person. More information about the Medical Board's telemedicine policy can be accessed here:

<https://med.ohio.gov/Portals/0/FAQs/Telemedicine%20FAQs%20adopted%20by%20Bd%20n%207-14-21%20Final.pdf?ver=JTUVzexq-vVcQwG9YvK6A%3d%3d>

Patient & Caregiver Email Addresses

Patients who share an email address with their caregiver will not have a unique log in to the Patient & Caregiver Registry. To access their patient profile, patients will need to ask their caregiver to log in to the caregiver's profile, click the "Patients" tab, then click the patient's name. This action will take them to their patient profile.

Patients and caregivers should use separate email addresses to independently log in to their respective accounts.

Rule Reminder

Complete Patient Registration

Pursuant to [OAC 3796:6-3-08\(C\)](#), dispensary employees shall require the presentation of a registry identification card together with another form of approved state-issued photographic identification belonging to a qualifying patient or caregiver, prior to selling medical marijuana to such qualifying patient or caregiver.

If a patient or caregiver's identification number listed on their profile does not exactly match that of their physical identification, they will not be able to purchase. All patients and caregivers should double-check the information listed on their profile to ensure it was entered correctly prior to visiting a dispensary. If there is an error, the patient should contact their recommending physician to request a correction.